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Summary record of the 51st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 16 December 1999, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Olhaye ..... (Djibouti)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.35 p.m.

Agenda item 97: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*)

(a) **High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/54/L.25 and A/C.2/54/L.75)

Draft resolutions on the high-level international consideration of financing for development (A/C.2/54/L.25 and L.75)

1. **Mr. Escanero** (Mexico) and **Mr. Matute** (Peru) made editorial changes to the draft resolution.

2. **Mr. Talbot** (Guyana), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, noted that there was no provision in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 for any activities required under the draft resolution. In that regard, he drew attention to the recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

3. **Ms. Kelley** (Secretary of the Committee), speaking on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, said that while the exact format, venue, timing and duration of the high-level event to be held in 2001 had yet to be determined, it was anticipated that the Preparatory Committee would hold three sessions in New York in 2000: a one-day organizational session; a resumed organizational session over five working days, not necessarily consecutive; and a first substantive session over 10 working days. There would be two meetings per day, with interpretation and documentation in the six official languages of the General Assembly, for each of those sessions. No documentation was anticipated for the organizational session; it was anticipated that there would be 40 pages of documentation required for the resumed organizational session and 72 pages for the first substantive session.

4. The exact dates of the sessions would be determined on the basis of the availability of conference facilities. Conference servicing costs, estimated on a full-cost basis, would be $14,600 for the organizational session, $108,500 for the resumed organizational session and $207,700 for the first substantive session, for a total of $330,800.

5. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, it was anticipated that no additional resources would be required under section 2 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

6. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.75, as orally amended, was adopted.*

7. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.25 was withdrawn.*

Agenda item 104: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*) (A/C.2/54/L.19, A/C.2/54/L.76, A/C.2/54/L.77 and A/C.2/54/L.78)

Draft resolutions on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (A/C.2/54/L.19, A/C.2/54/L.76)

8. **Mr. Talbot** (Guyana), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, asked the Chairman to suspend the meeting in order to allow for further consideration by the sponsors of the proposed amendments to paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.76, contained in documents A/C.2/54/L.77 and A/C.2/54/L.78.

The meeting was suspended at 3.55 p.m. and resumed at 6.05 p.m.

9. **Ms. Päivöke** (Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the sponsors had achieved consensus on the draft resolution.

10. **Mr. Talbot** (Guyana), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the amended text of paragraph 10, which was based on the text contained in document A/C.2/54/L.78, would read as follows: "Strongly underlines the importance of an enabling environment for investment, in particular for foreign direct investment, and of market access, governance responsive to the needs of the people based on efficient, participatory, transparent and accountable public service, policy-making processes and administration, an increase in the volume and effectiveness of official development assistance, tackling unsustainable debt burdens, including debt conversion measures and flexibility in the implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative and, as recommended in the report of the Secretary-General, support for regional cooperation and integration as priority areas that need to be addressed in order to achieve sustainable

development in African countries and to encourage the participation of all African countries in the global economy".

11. **Mr. Klerpens** (Suriname) made editorial corrections to the text of the draft resolution.

12. **Mr. March** (Australia) said that as a result of the negotiations, his delegation was in a position to join the consensus on the amended text of the draft resolution.

13. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.76, as orally amended, was adopted.*

14. *Draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.19 was withdrawn.*

Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 2000-2001 (A/C.2/54/L.65)

15. **Mr. Xiong Lixian** (Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services) drew attention to the corrections to be made in the draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 2000-2001 (A/C.2/54/L.65) in the light of the draft resolutions adopted by the Committee during the current session.

16. *The draft biennial programme of work, as amended, was adopted.*

Completion of the Committee's work

17. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had had an unusually heavy workload during the current session and had dealt with issues of great importance, including globalization, trade, financial flows and, in particular, financing for development, which seemed finally to be gaining recognition within the United Nations. He hoped that the work of the Organization in 2000 would reflect the Committee's achievements.

18. **Mr. Talbot** (Guyana), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that during the current session the Committee had sought to extend its horizons in a manner fully in keeping with the Charter of the United Nations. While that had led to intense discussions, he was gratified by the commitment to partnership, understanding and consensus-building which had characterized the majority of the Committee's work.

19. **Ms. Päivöke** (Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta and, in addition, Iceland, noted that while consensus had been reached on a number of issues, it had regrettably proved impossible to reach consensus on the inclusion of a more explicit reference to good governance in draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.76.

20. Noting that there had been more draft resolutions to consider than in the previous year, she said that the Committee should try to rationalize its work by integrating overlapping items and resolutions while maintaining the substance of the issues, particularly in matters related to the environment. Deadlines for the submission of draft resolutions should be met and negotiations should begin soon after a draft resolution was introduced. Moreover, the reforms established in General Assembly resolution 50/227 must be implemented in full.

21. **Mr. Thomas** (United States of America) said that the Committee needed to concentrate on a few key resolutions, ensure that documentation was provided in a timely manner and devote more time to negotiation and less to general statements so that it could conclude its work on time in the future.

22. While he was pleased that the Committee had been able to achieve consensus on the majority of its resolutions, he regretted that some delegations had been unaware of the depth of his own delegation's conviction on certain issues, which had led it to dissociate itself from consensus on a few resolutions. Moreover, he was concerned at the Committee's departure from previously-agreed-upon approaches and commonly-held ideals. In the coming year, his delegation would work to strengthen the constructive partnership that had prevailed in the past.

23. **Mr. Tchoulkov** (Russian Federation) said that the draft resolutions on the development of the global economy, international trade, entrepreneurship, the international financial system and external debt had set guidelines for the world community and determined specific areas for international cooperation, both within and outside the United Nations system, thereby promoting the sustainable development of all Member States. He particularly welcomed the draft resolution on enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development (A/C.2/54/L.59).

24. **Mr. Amaziane** (Morocco) said that while he understood the rationale for the proliferation of

informal informal consultations, that development had made it difficult for small delegations, to participate in the negotiations. He hoped that the Bureau would reconsider the practice during the coming year. Furthermore, he was disturbed at the growing number of draft resolutions that were being submitted by Vice-Chairmen; that procedure should be followed only when there was a clear consensus on the proposed texts. Lastly, it was important to ensure that documents were available in all six official languages of the General Assembly.

25. After an exchange of courtesies, in which **Mr. Anaedu** (Nigeria) and **Mr. Escanero** (Mexico) took part, **the Chairman** declared that the Committee had completed its work for the fifty-fourth session.

The meeting rose at 6.50 p.m.